

AFRD ES&H Operations Committee
71J Conference Room
September 7, 2007
2:00 – 3:00 PM

Minutes

Attendees: Tom McVeigh, Tom Scarvie, Peter Seidl, Pat Thomas, Csaba Toth

1. ES&H News and Lessons Learned

- **Lessons Learned: overheated electrical wires** – A lab had a raceway with multiple electrical receptacles. A person working in the lab had trouble with one of the receptacles overheating, so he plugged his equipment into the next one. When that receptacle overheated, he moved to the next one. During self-assessment, an inspector noticed that the raceway was hot and notified the electrical shop. The electrician discovered that the wires in all of the receptacles were loose, causing high resistance and overheating. Lessons learned include: Improper electrical connections may fail months or years after installation. Immediately report any suspected electrical problems. Beware of overloading receptacles, plug strips, and circuits.
- **SAA inspections coming Sept. 25-27.** If you have questions about hazardous waste management, please contact Maram Kassis right away.
- **Respirator y protection audit Sept. 17-19.** Betsy MacGowan visited AFRD respirator users and discussed proper use and storage of respirators. If you have additional questions, please contact Betsy.
- **Welding program review** – Weyland Wong is collecting an inventory of welders at LBNL. There may be additional questions coming soon about welding safety practices.
- **LOTO program review** – Keith Gershon is reviewing out Lockout/Tagout procedures and will be responding with recommendations on how they can be improved.
- **Self-Assessment year end** -- September is the last month of Performance Year 2007. Any steps you can take to improve our performance, such as closing out CATS items, updating JHQs, completing training, etc. will be helpful.

2. Program Forum

- **Supercon** had a water leak when a 2” LCW hose failed under 100-psi pressure. The technicians in the area responded promptly, reporting and cleaning up the spill. The waterlines upstairs had been recently replaced, and they were planning to look at the downstairs lines next when one of these lines failed. There does not appear to be any damage from the leak.
- **Fusion** was affected by the water leak, which flowed through the HCX experiment area. They are looking at the possibility of installing a leak detector and alarm system. There have been previous leaks in this area, and it might go undetected if a leak occurs outside normal work hours. The HCX AHD is in the process of being reviewed. The experiment may start up again in about 6-8 weeks. **IBT** postdocs Francis and Arun have left AFRD to work on other projects, but they may return later.
- **LOASIS** is in routine operations. The next phase of construction on A-cave may take place in mid-October. Construction in 71-146 is not expected until some time in 2008. There was a problem when painter s showed up to work on the offices upstairs without notifying the former occupants. Files could not be accessed and desk drawer contents were

disturbed when the furniture was moved out of the way. Discussions were held with the supervisor and the painters are now keeping us informed.

- **ALS** reported a problem with 2 students playing with liquid nitrogen. The students filled a soft drink bottle and were “experimenting” with how high they could shoot the bottle cap – inside the ALS! This was noticed when the bottle cap hit the dome roof. This is a reminder to keep students busy with productive work and ensure they are adequately supervised.
- **CBP** has been working with Facilities Space Planning on where they can put the future research activities for Next Generation Light Source.

Next Meeting:

October 5, 2:00 PM, Bldg. 71J Conference Room